

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Raakman on December 15, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the abstract:

line 2, inserted --master-- following "unitary"

In the claims:

claim 2,

line 3, inserted --one piece-- following "unitary"

line 7, inserted --one piece-- following "unitary"

line 11, inserted --center-- following the first occurrence of "a"

line 13, inserted --and one piece-- following "moulded"

changed line 17 to --cross-section, has a profile comprising a first U-shaped groove with an opening which faces in a direction toward a front of the master frame and a second U-shaped groove with an opening which faces in a direction opposite to the direction the opening of the first U-shaped groove faces,--

deleted lines 18-19

changed line 20 to --and the--

claim 3,

line 1, deleted "at least"

changed line 2 to --the fixed side of the mullion includes--

line 3, deleted "cooperate to provide"

claim 4,

line 1, deleted "at least"

changed line 2 to --the vent side of the mullion includes--

line 3, deleted "cooperate to provide"

claim 5,

line 3, inserted --each of-- following "wherein"

line 4, changed "the respective" to --a respective one of the--

claim 6,

line 3, deleted "each of"

line 5, inserted --sash frame-- following the first occurrence of "the"

claim 7,

line 3, inserted --one piece-- following "unitary"

line 7, inserted --one piece-- following "unitary"

line 11, inserted --center-- following the first occurrence of "a"

line 13, inserted --and one piece-- following "moulded"

changed line 16 to --member, and wherein the integrally moulded mullion, as viewed in horizontal cross section, has a profile comprising a first U-shaped groove with an opening which faces in a direction toward a front of the master frame and a second U-shaped groove with an opening which faces in a direction opposite to the direction the opening of the first U-shaped groove faces,--

line 19, inserted --each of-- following "wherein" and changed the last occurrence of "the" to --a--

line 20, inserted --one of the-- following "respective"

line 22, deleted "each of"

line 24, inserted --sash frame-- following the first occurrence of "the"

changed line 31 to --removal of the sash frame relative to the master frame.--

deleted line 32

claim 8,

line 2, changed "extends longitudinally along a portion of" to --has a length--

changed line 3 to --sufficient to--

line 4, deleted "the length of"

claim 9,

line 2, changed "includes a first" to --comprises a--

line 3, changed "first cavity having a cavity" to --cavity--

line 4, deleted "length that traverse the mullion, generally"

line 5, deleted "first"

changed line 6 to --cavity--

line 7, deleted the first occurrence of "frame"

line 8, deleted "first" and changed "sash frame" to --upper horizontal sash frame member--

line 9, inserted --of the sash frame relative to the master frame-- following "removal"

claim 10,

line 2, deleted the first occurrence of "first"

claim 12,

changed line 3 to --interlacing configuration,--

changed line 4 to --the second sash frame--

line 5, deleted "second"

change line 7 to --horizontal sash frame member.--

deleted lines 8-9

claim 13,

line 2, deleted the second occurrence of "second"

line 3, deleted "second"

line 4, deleted "traversing the mullion, generally"

line 5, deleted "second"

claim 15,

line 2, changed "adapted to take up the second" to --substantially equal to the--

line 3, inserted --the vertically aligned surfaces of-- following "between"

claim 16,

changed line 3 to --horizontal sash frame members.--

deleted line 4

claim 17,

line 3, inserted --one piece-- following "unitary"

line 4, deleted the second occurrence of "and"

line 6, inserted --center-- following the first occurrence of "a"

line 8, inserted --and one piece-- following "moulded"

line 11, inserted --one piece-- following "unitary"

line 17, deleted "for"

changed line 18 to --sash frame for inhibiting fluid from passing through the frame assembly--

line 19, deleted "interior environment"

changed line 21 to --profile comprising a first U-shaped groove with an opening which faces in a direction toward a front of the master frame and a second U-shaped groove with an opening which faces in a direction opposite to the direction the opening of the first U-shaped groove faces,--

deleted lines 22-23

line 24, deleted "having a generally uniform wall thickness"

claim 21,

line 16, deleted "between an"

line 17, deleted "external and internal environment"

line 21, changed "the penetration of fluid from the exterior" to --fluid from passing through the frame assembly--

line 22, deleted "environment to the interior environment"

line 24, inserted --one of said seals-- following "exterior"

changed line 25 to --and an interior one of said seals.--

deleted line 26

claim 22,

line 2, changed "liquid" to --fluid--

claim 23,

line 4, inserted --extending-- following "apertures"

line 5, deleted "to provide a source of generally dry"

line 6, deleted "air to be drawn into the buffering chamber"

claim 26,

line 1, deleted "wherein the"

deleted line 2

line 3, deleted "frames, and", changed "grooves" to --sash frame grooves-- and
inserted --frame-- following "sash"

line 4, inserted --frame-- following "sash"

line 5, changed "to any position" to --frame--

claim 27,

line 3, deleted "and wherein the projections"

deleted line 4

line 5, deleted "frame, and"

line 6, deleted "each of"

line 8, inserted --sash frame-- following "the"

claim 28,

line 1, inserted --sash frame-- following "and"

line 3, inserted --frame-- following "sash"

line 4, inserted --frame-- following "sash" and changed "to" to --frame--

line 5, deleted "any position"

claim 29,

line 2, deleted "first"

line 3, deleted "first"

changed line 6 to --master frame for installation and removal of the sash frame
relative to the master frame.--

deleted lines 7-8

claim 30,

line 1, deleted "first"

changed line 2 to --interlacing configuration has a length--

changed line 3 to --sufficient to accommodate--

claim 31,

line 1, deleted "first"

line 2, changed "includes a first" to --comprises a--

line 3, changed "first cavity having a cavity length that" to --cavity--

line 4, deleted "traverses the mullion, generally"

line 5, changed "first cavity in" to --cavity--

deleted line 6

line 7, deleted "first"

line 8, changed the first occurrence of "sash frame" to --upper horizontal sash frame member--

line 9, inserted --of the sash frame relative to the master frame-- following "removal"

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gregory J. Strimbu whose telephone number is 571-272-6836. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday 8:00 to 4:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Mitchell can be reached on 571-272-7069. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Gregory J. Strimbu/
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